

Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI)



New Jersey - 2004

Public Health Services
Division of Epidemiology, Environmental and Occupational Health
Occupational Health Service
Occupational Health Surveillance Program

FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURY CHARACTERISTICS

2004

- Total number in New Jersey: 129
Total number in U.S.: 5,703
- 121 were men; 8 were women
- Ages ranged from 18 to 88 yrs old
- Average age was 45 years old
- Race or Ethnicity
 - White, non-Hispanic 74 (57%)
 - Black, non-Hispanic 14 (11%)
 - Hispanic/Latino 34 (26%)
 - Asian 6 (5%)
 - Unknown 1 (1%)
- 39 (30%) were foreign-born
- 120 (93%) worked for private industry
- 118 (92%) worked for New Jersey employers
- At least 58 (45%) worked for employers with ten or fewer employees

FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURY CASE DEFINITION

A fatal injury is considered work-related if the event leading to the injury occurred while the employee was working, either on or off the employer's premises.

The following categories of individuals are included:

- Private and government employees
- Self-employed persons
- Certain volunteers (firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical service workers)
- Persons traveling as a condition of employment, but not commuting to or from work

NUMBER OF FATAL OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES BY YEAR

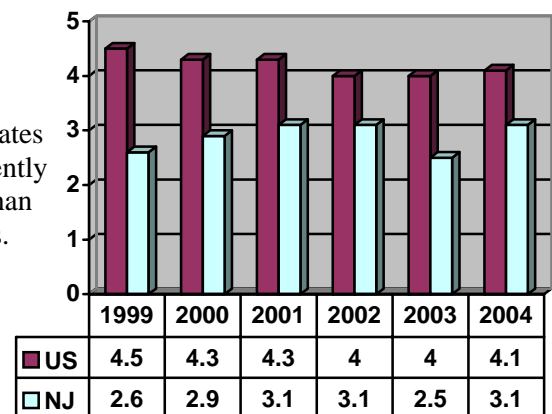
1999 – 2004

Year	Number
1999	104
2000	115
2001	129
2002	129
2003	104
2004	129

INCIDENCE RATES

Rates of Fatal Work-Related Injuries
United States and New Jersey, 1999-2004

New Jersey rates have consistently been lower than national rates.



Fatalities per 100,000 employed

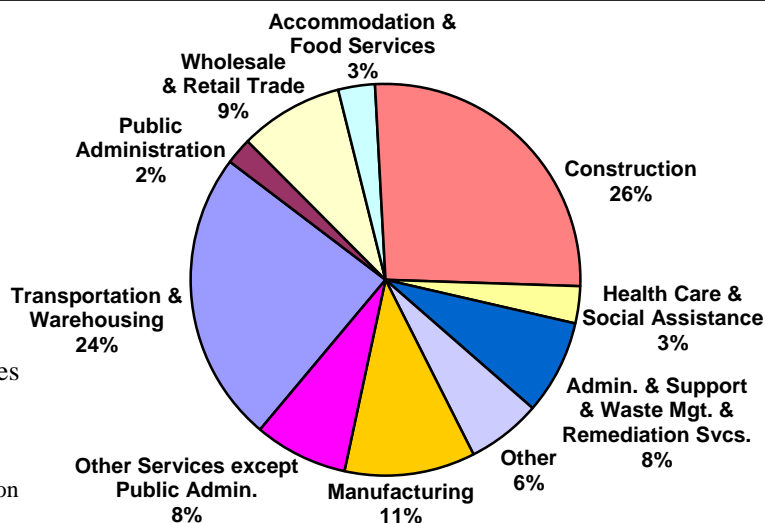
U.S. and New Jersey rates were developed by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

INDUSTRY*

Fatal Work-Related Injuries New Jersey - 2004 N=129

- The construction industry included 29 specialty trade contractors and five building contractors.
- The transportation and warehousing industry included 13 truck transportation companies and eight transit and ground passenger companies.

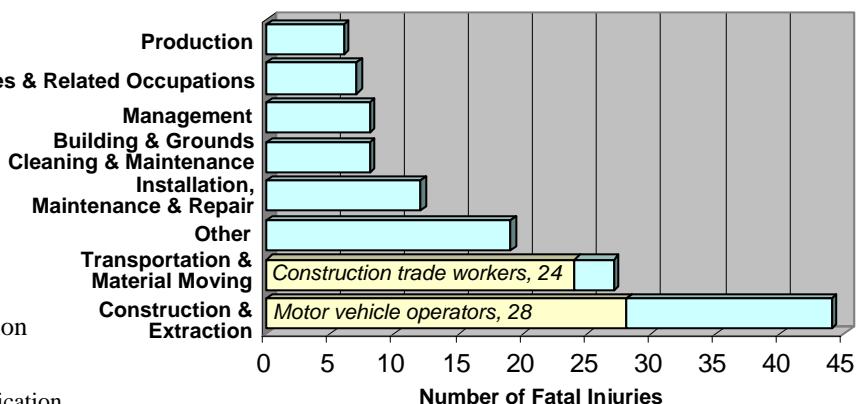
* North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), 2002



OCCUPATION*

Fatal Work-Related Injuries New Jersey - 2004 N=129

- 44 (34%) worked in transportation & material moving occupations.
 - 28 worked as motor vehicle operators.
- 27 (21%) worked in construction & extraction occupations.
 - 24 worked in construction trades.

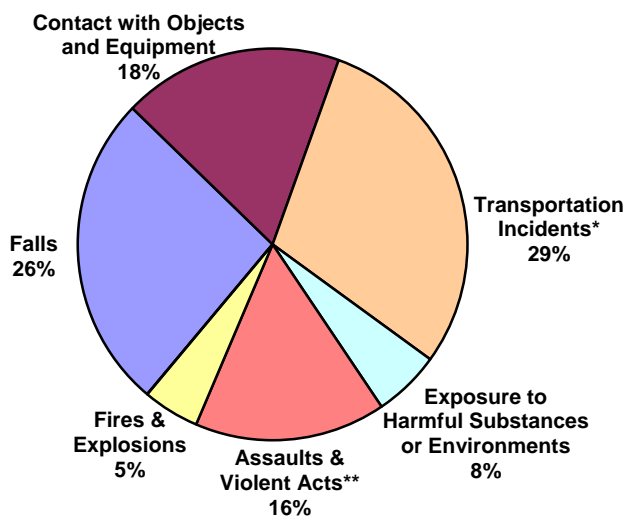


*Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Manual, 2000

EVENT OR EXPOSURE

Fatal Work-Related Injuries New Jersey - 2004 N=129

- 31 (91%) of the falls were due to falls to lower levels.
- 25 (93%) of the transportation incidents occurred in roadways.
- 14 (67%) of the violent incidents were homicides.
- 5 (50%) of the incidents due to exposure to harmful substances or environments were associated with caustic, noxious, or allergenic substances.



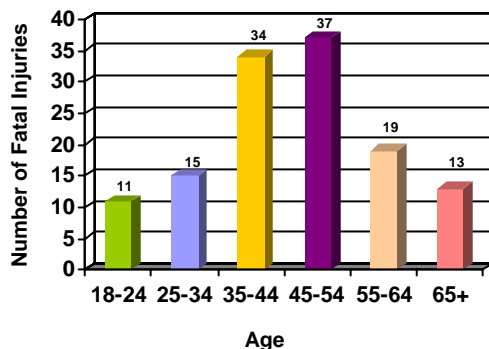
* Transportation incidents include roadway, non-roadway, pedestrian, air, water, and rail fatalities.

** Assaults and violent acts include homicides, suicides, animal attacks, and violent actions of unknown intent.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

AGE OF FATALLY INJURED WORKERS

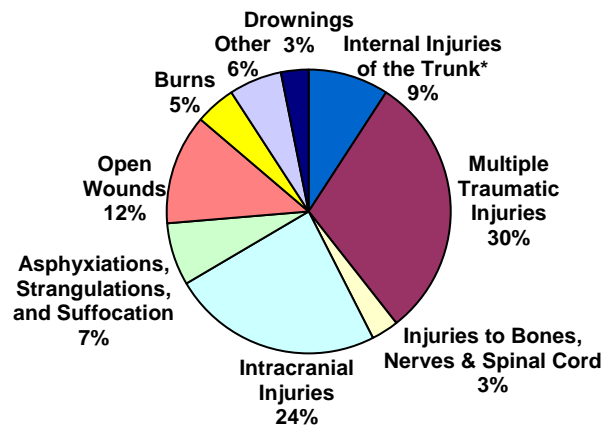
N=129



- The average age was 45 years old. Forty-seven percent of the victims were younger than 45 years of age.
- An average of 20 potential years of work life (the number of years before age 65) was lost per fatality for a total of 2,616 potential years of work life lost in 2004.

NATURE OF FATAL INJURIES

N=129



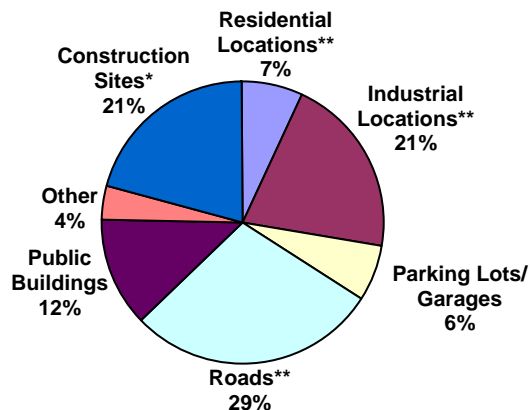
- Almost one-third of the fatality victims died of multiple traumatic injuries. Eleven (8%) died of gun shots, six (5%) died from burns, and five (4%) died after being stabbed.

* Refers to internal injuries to organs and blood vessels of the trunk.

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

LOCATION OF FATAL INCIDENTS

N=129



- Almost one-third of the fatal incidents occurred on roads. Fifteen (12%) occurred on local roads, 10 (8%) occurred on highways with multiple access, and 7 (5%) occurred on roads with limited access.

*Includes general construction, road construction, and home construction sites.

**Excludes construction sites.

FATAL INJURIES OF HISPANIC WORKERS

N=34

- 25 (74%) were foreign-born and 9 (26%) were born in the U.S. or a U.S. territory.
- 11 (32%) worked in the transportation & warehousing industry and 9 (26%) worked in construction.
- 14 (41%) had transportation & material moving occupations and 9 (26%) were construction workers.
- 9 (26%) died from falls, 7 (21%) from transportation events, and 7 (21%) from contact with objects or equipment.

TRANSPORTATION-RELATED FATAL INJURIES

New Jersey - 2004

N=37

- Most frequent type of work-related fatality
- 37 (29%) of 129 total fatal injuries, a decrease from 39% of the total in 2003 and from 36% of the total in 2002.
- 25 (19%) of the 129 fatal injuries were motor vehicle incidents that occurred on a road, a decrease from 23% of the total in 2003 and from 22% of the total in 2002.
 - 21 (84%) victims were driving a vehicle and 4 (16%) were passengers in a moving vehicle
 - 13 (52%) of the decedents were driving or riding in a truck; 6 (24%) were in a car; 6 (24%) were in a van
 - 14 (56%) involved collisions between vehicles
 - 6 (24%) involved striking a stationary object on the road or side of the road
 - 7 (28%) occurred on local roads and 15 (60%) occurred on highways
 - 12 (48%) victims worked for the transportation and warehousing industry
 - 18 (72%) were transportation and material moving workers
- 10 (27%) of the 37 victims were pedestrians
 - 7 fatalities occurred on roads or sides of roads and 3 occurred in non-road areas

WORK-RELATED FALLS

New Jersey - 2004

N=33

- Second most frequent type of work-related fatality
- All worked in the private sector.
- 33 (26%) of 129 total fatal injuries, an increase from 18% of the total in 2003 and from 16% of the total in 2002.
- 31 (24%) of the 129 victims fell to lower levels, an increase from 15% of the total in 2003 and 2002.
 - 15 (48%) were performing construction activities when they fell and 18 (58%) of the falls occurred at construction sites.
 - 9 (29%) fell from a roof
 - 6 (19%) fell from ladders
 - 20 (65%) were employed in the construction industry
 - 18 (58%) worked in construction and extraction occupations
 - 7 (23%) worked in transportation and material moving occupations
 - 9 (29%) were Hispanic or Latino
 - 20 (65%) were white, non-Hispanic
 - 7 (23%) were foreign-born
 - Their ages ranged from 21 to 85 years, with an average age of 49 years
 - At least 21 (68%) worked for employers with ten or fewer employees

This report was compiled from data collected by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, Occupational Health Surveillance Program, under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

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